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## **CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

- 1. (previously presented) A process for sterilizing a contaminatable slurry to preclude aerobic and anaerobic bacteria from the slurry, comprising the steps of
  - a. providing a sanitized oxygen-free fluid handling system,
  - b. pumping the slurry through the system at a predetermined pressure,
  - c. heating the slurry to a sterilizing temperature of about 210°F 290° for a predetermined time to sterilize the slurry,
  - d. cooling the sterilized slurry by transferring heat to the unsterilized slurry entering the process, and
  - e. transferring the sterilized slurry to a sanitized fluid collection device. 2-(original) The process of claim 1, including the step of flushing the fluid-handling system with a mist of nitrogen and a sanitizing chemical to-sanitize the system.
- 2. (original) The process of claim 1, including the step of flushing the fluid handling system with a mist of nitrogen and a sanitizing chemical to sanitize the system.
- 3. (original) The process of claim 1, wherein the sterilizing temperature is about 230°F 270° F, the predetermined time is greater than 5 seconds, and the cooling temperature is below 100° F.
- 4. (original) The process of claim 3, wherein the sterilizing temperature is about 250°F and the predetermined time is about 2 minutes.
- 5. (original) The process of claim 1, wherein the sanitized fluid collection device is a storage tank, and including the steps of
  - f. flushing the fluid handling system with a mist of nitrogen and a sanitizing chemical to sanitize the system, and
    - g. excluding oxygen from the storage tank, and
    - h. transporting the storage tank to a terminus for offloading of the slurry.

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